

## FIRST AMERICAN SHOT FIRED IN WAR SINKS SUBMARINE

To Armed Liner Mongolia Falls Honor of Bagging German U-Boat.

GUNNERS SCORE CLEAN HIT AT DISTANCE OF 1,000 YARDS

Periscope Is Smashed by Shell and Goes Down in Swirl of Water.

NO DOUBT OF ITS DESTRUCTION

Attempt to Torpedo Liner Made on Last Day of Voyage to British Port.

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, April 25.—Captain Rice, of the American steamship Mongolia, which has arrived at a British port, told the Associated Press to-day that the Mongolia had fired the first gun of the war for the United States and sunk a German submarine.

The periscope was sighted dead ahead on the last afternoon of the voyage. The captain gave the order for full speed ahead with the intention of ramming the submarine.

The periscope disappeared and a few minutes later reappeared on the ship's broadside. The gunners fired, hitting the periscope squarely and throwing up a mountain of water.

HARD FOR CAPTAIN TO CONCEAL HIS PRIDE  
Captain Rice outlined the incident with modesty, but could not quite conceal the pride he felt in the achievement of his ship. He said a great tribute to the gunners and especially to the manner in which they were handled by the officer who directed the firing of the telling shot.

"For five days and nights," said Captain Rice, "I hadn't had my clothes off and we kept a big force of lookouts on duty all the time. It was 5:29 o'clock in the afternoon of the 19th that we sighted the submarine. The officer commanding the gunners was with me on the bridge. At first, we had been the most of the time throughout the voyage. There was a haze over the sea at the time. We had just taken a sounding, for we were setting near shallow water and we were looking at the lead when the first mate cried: 'There's a submarine off the port bow.' The submarine was close to us, too close in fact, for her purposes, and she was submerging again in order to maneuver in a better position for torpedoing us when we sighted her. We saw the periscope go down and the swirl of the water. I quickly ordered a man at the wheel to put in to starboard, and we swung the nose of the ship toward the spot where the submarine had been seen.

"We were going at full speed ahead, and two minutes after we first sighted the U-boat it emerged again about 1,000 yards off. Its intention probably was not to catch us broadside on, but when it appeared we had the stern gun trained full on it.

"The lieutenant gave the command, and the big guns boomed. We saw the periscope shattered, and the shell and the submarine disappeared.

"I assure you we did not stop to reconsider after the incident, but steamed away at full speed, for it was not improbable that there was another submarine about. The one I got undoubtedly had been lying on the bottom at this spot waiting for the ship, and came up when it heard our propellers. I immediately sent a wireless message stating that a submarine had been seen.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT FIRES FIRST GUN OF WAR  
"That's about all the story, excepting this:

"The gunners had named the guns on board the Mongolia and the one which got the submarine was called Theodore Roosevelt; so Teddy fired the first gun of the war after all."

Captain Rice recalled that he came from Allston, Mass., and that the encounter with the submarine occurred on the date when the Bay State was celebrating the anniversary of the battle of Lexington.

"I can't speak too highly of the cool manner in which the lieutenant handled his crew of gunners," he said. "It was a fine exhibition of the efficiency of American naval men. The lieutenant knew before the shell struck the submarine that its aim was accurate. There is no guesswork about it, but a case of pure mathematics. Taking the speed at which the Mongolia was traveling at the time it was sighted and the speed which the submarine undoubtedly would make, and computing these figures with the distances we were from the submarine when it was first sighted and when it appeared the second time, it can be shown that the lieutenant had his gun sighted to the inch. And it must be remembered that the whole affair took only two minutes."

SHELL DISAPPEARS WHEN HIT IS MADE  
Even more pertinent a fact, as regards the ultimate fate of the submarine, was that the shell disappeared immediately after the hit was made. The captain stated that a shell always ricochets in the water and can be seen again unless it finds the mark. Oil also was seen on the water after the submarine disappeared.

The Mongolia was going at full speed, and was a long distance away when the spray and foam subsided, but from the bridge the officers observed the spot through their glasses and they are confident the submarine was sunk.

## China Draws Closer to War With Germany

PEKING, April 25.—At a conference of provincial and military governors, at which the Premier presided, it was voted unanimously that China should enter the war against Germany.

A canvass shows that Parliament is overwhelmingly in favor of China declaring war, but President Li Yuan Heng is still undecided on the question.

## SPEAKER TAKES FLOOR AGAINST WAR ARMY BILL

Champ Clark, in Address to House, Declares His Unalterable Opposition to Selective Draft.

MEASURE EXPECTED TO PASS  
Poll Shows That Members Will Line Up Behind President by Majority of Sixty to Seventy—Vote Probable by Saturday.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 25.—Although Speaker Clark took the floor in the House to-day and aroused great enthusiasm among opponents of the administration army bill by his vigorous denunciation of the selective draft and defense of the volunteer system, champions of the measure still were confident to-night that it would pass not later than Saturday, virtually as approved by the President.

It was announced during the day that a poll of the House made by supporters of the bill disclosed a favorable majority of between sixty and seventy. Its passage in the Senate is considered assured, and unanimous consent to vote on it there by Saturday will be sought to-morrow. Minor chances made in one house or the other probably will necessitate a conference, so that the bill is not likely to become law for a week or more.

SAYS WORD "CONSCRIPT" IS CLASSED WITH "CONVICT"

Speaker Clark spoke for more than an hour. Most of the House membership and many Senators heard him plead in character, in fact, that the volunteer system be tried again, and declare that in the minds of the people of his State the word "conscript" is classed with "convict." Applause frequently interrupted him.

Senators Reed, Vandaman and Sherman were the speakers on the Senate side. All three opposed the selective draft and upheld the volunteer system. Senator Reed spoke for nearly four hours, and attacked the bill in almost every detail. Senator Vandaman said he would never vote for compulsion until he had been shown that the volunteer system would not work. He criticized the pending bill as another exhibition of the tendency to get away from the principles of democracy.

Senator Sherman declared that he would not "abdicate his power for any chief magistrate, Cabinet or War Council." He said England for a thousand years had not along and fought her wars successfully without resort to conscription.

The Illinois Senator said the "metropolitan newspapers, which were largely responsible for bringing on the war, had not succeeded very well in bringing in recruits. On April 5, he said, there were more recruits in Munich, Ind., with 35,000 people, than in New York, with her 6,000,000.

WILL MAKE REQUEST TO FIX VOTING TIME  
Chairman Chamberlain, of the Senate Military Committee, will present his request to fix a time for voting to-morrow, and is hopeful it will be agreed to. He said to-night there was no indication that many more long speeches would be made.

Representative Sherley, of Kentucky, who replied to Speaker Clark, read a telegram Henry Watterson, editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal, had sent the Speaker, declaring the volunteer system was a relic of the past, as is the stage coach, and that his vote against conscription would weaken his usefulness to the country.

Chairman Dents, of the committee, leading the volunteer advocates, asked Mr. Sherley why the navy was on a volunteer basis and the army proposed to be on the draft basis.

CAN MAINTAIN NAVAL FORCE BY VOLUNTEER SYSTEM  
"It is one thing," replied Mr. Sherley, "to be able to furnish 500,000 men over a course of years as ships come into commission and to get them by the volunteer system, and it is quite another thing to organize a million men by the volunteer system with the uncertainties of enlistment and of volunteering."

"You certainly do not contend," asked Mr. Dent, "that if the majority bill is adopted, the President cannot get everything he asked for?"

"Oh, no," replied Mr. Sherley, "but he has to get it after the trial and tribulation of finding that the volunteer system is inadequate and after trying a system that puts upon men the very stigma you say you want to keep from the citizenship."

The House remained in session until 10 o'clock to-night. Representative Gardner announced before adjournment that he and a number of others had polled the House and had found 237 members in favor of the draft, 113 opposed and 50 noncommittal.

GIRL WILL DIE FOR SPYING  
Employed as Servant by German for Whom She Gathered Military Information in Paris.

(By Associated Press.)  
PARIS, April 25.—A court-martial has condemned to death a spy, Emilienne Rose Duchimetre, a nineteen-year-old girl. She was convicted of gathering military information at Geneva, Lyons and Paris, on behalf of Germany by whom she had been employed as a servant.

## SAYS GERMANY HAS RESERVE STRENGTH

Dr. John R. Mott Warns Against Underestimating Power of Opposition.

CAN CONTINUE FOR YEARS

Impressed by Solidarity of German People—Stories of Disruption Inspired.

Warning his hearers not to underestimate the strength of Germany to-day, and cautioning them not to believe reports of internal disturbance in the territory of the central powers, Dr. John R. Mott told of the seriousness of the struggle into which America had entered in his lecture on "Domestic Impressions Received in Two Journeys in the War Zone," delivered last night in the auditorium of Richmond College.

Dr. Mott spent four months in Europe in the fall of 1916, shortly after the outbreak of the war, and an even longer period of time there in the spring and summer of 1916, fifteen months later. He visited practically every country engaged in the conflict, and had the most favorable opportunities for observing conditions and making accurate estimates. He is general secretary of the International Young Men's Christian Association, was recently a member of the International Commission on Mexican Affairs, and by his constant traveling in the interest of the causes he represents has earned the title of world-citizen. Dr. Mott comes to Richmond at the invitation of Richmond College to deliver the forty-first series of lectures on the James Thomas, Jr. Foundation.

STORIES OF WEAKNESS INSPIRED BY GERMANY

"I believe that fully nineteen-twentieths of the stories about German weakness and disruption are inspired by Germany herself, for obvious reasons," said Dr. Mott. "Let us not be deceived. In spite of the scenes of division that have occurred in Germany, as they have in every other of the warring nations, the whole impression is one of splendid national solidarity. Germany has achieved the impossible in uniting the social democrats and the members of the extreme autocratic wing. I was in Austria-Hungary before the war, trying to bring about a greater spirit of fraternalism between the students of the heterogeneous nations of that empire. Austria-Hungary is bound together to-day in a union as impressive as any, and she appeared more determined to hold out last summer than when I was there more than a year before."

"If you ask which country has the least will for the fight, I could not answer you. I saw no flabbiness of purpose, no weakness of will, no lack of staying power. Take the French, for instance. We have regarded them in the past as a volatile, impulsive, talkative and perhaps unstable people. The French to-day are calm, in full possession of themselves, speaking few words, but unalterable in purpose to attain the victory. Marshall Joffre has epitomized the spirit of the French nation in the words, 'They shall not pass.' Yet in accuracy, I would be forced to say the same in regard to the spirit of any nation on either side."

PREPARED TO CONTINUE AS LONG AS DESIRED

"I received the startling impression in some of the countries of Europe that war had been reduced to the normal, had been domesticated. Germany affords perhaps the best example of this. One of the two most distinguished spokesmen of the imperial government said to me during my last journey. We have stood this struggle now for two years, and they are the worst years. We are prepared to continue as long as the nations desire! Do you know that now, while we talk of Germany starving, she is laying aside a full reserve of food to carry over the population another year in case of a crop shortage?"

"God grant that war may never become commonplace to America. May these works of demolition and destruction, of fighting unto blood, never become domesticated in this country and become second nature to our people."

The lecture was a recounting of the various impressions Dr. Mott had received on his visits. He told of the business of the war, of the fact that each nation wished to clear itself of blame in the eyes of the United States, of the revival of religion brought about by the war, of the prevalent misunderstanding in every country of the policy of neutrality so long maintained by the United States, of the terrible suffering caused by the war and at last of the bountiful generosity of the stricken peoples in relieving the suffering in contrast with the ingratitude which has hitherto characterized America.

TELLS OF INTENSE SUFFERING IN EUROPE

"Believe me, it is a suffering Europe," said Dr. Mott, after reciting particular instances of pain and grief that had come under his own observation. "Not less than 5,000,000 men and boys are stretched on beds of affliction in military hospitals to-night. Those figures do not include the men patched up and sent back to the front or the wrecks so injured as to be unfit for further service. When I was in Moscow I visited the receiving hospital there which had taken in 150,000 shattered Russian bodies in the preceding four months. Europe is the greatest concentration of pulsating human pain that the world has ever seen."

"Not the soldiers, however, are the greatest sufferers from the war. I have seen wounded men bear excruciating pain, but I have never heard one complain. The greatest suffering is from another kind of pain—the dull ache of sorrow that is ever-present in the consciousness. It is borne by the

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## FIELDS ARE STREWN WITH GERMAN DEAD

Thousands Lie Where They Have Fallen in Mighty Battle in France.

BRITISH STILL ADVANCING

Teutons Fight Doggedly, but Their Morale Is Being Shattered.

(By Associated Press.)  
Many thousands of German dead strewn the battle fields over which the British and Germans have been engaged for the past three days in titanic struggles for mastery.

The British troops have made further gains south of the Scarpe River in their advance toward Cambrai and also have captured the hamlet of Billehem, east of the Havincourt wood, which lies midway between Arras and St. Quentin.

Violent fighting continues around Monchy, where the British attacked three times, but were repulsed with heavy losses, according to Berlin. In a continuation of the intensive air fighting fifteen German airplanes have been forced down by British airmen and six British machines are missing as a result of fights in the air.

Along the French front the artillery activity everywhere continues violent. Twice the Germans essayed infantry attacks, but in each instance they were stopped by the artillery fire of the French. Heavy casualties were inflicted on the Germans in an effort to wrest the Hurbise farm from General Nivelle's forces.

In Belgium artillery duels continue. German torpedo-boat destroyers early Wednesday morning shelled Dunkirk and sank a French torpedo boat.

AUSTRIANS ATTACK ITALIAN POSITIONS

On the Carro Plateau of the Austro-Italian theater, the Austrians south of Gorizia delivered an attack against Italian positions, which was successful at one point. The concentration of troops in the Trentino region is being continued by the Austrians, probably presaging an early offensive there.

There has been considerable activity by the Russian artillery in Northwest Russia. Further progress has been made by the British troops against the Turks in Mesopotamia, the Ottoman forces having been driven from the west bank of the Shatt-el-Adhem to within a short distance from the junction of this river with the Tigris. Large captures of men, guns, rifles, ammunition and other war stores have been made by General Maude's men in their drive against the Turks.

After several days of violent artillery preparation the British troops in the Doiran Lake sector of Macedonia have delivered an attack against the Bulgarians on the Gostivar-Gali mile front, and advanced their line about 500 yards over a front of one mile and put down counterattacks. To the east they also were able to enter the enemy's trenches, but could not hold them.

GERMANS SUSTAINING FRIGHTFUL LOSSES

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 25.—Complete understanding of America's attitude in the war—unreserved co-operation in the fight of democracy against the German military menace, without entangling political alliances—was expressed by Foreign Minister Balfour, head of the British war commission, in a statement to-day to newspaper correspondents.

The Foreign Minister's statement was officially stated to have been made as a result of his conferences during the past few days with President Wilson and Secretary Lansing. It was generally regarded as disposing finally of suggestions in some quarters that the United States might be asked to sign a treaty not to make a separate peace.

PROVES EVENTFUL DAY FOR BRITISH COMMISSION

This was an eventful day for the British commissioners, marked by a hearty welcome to France's illustrious war commission and the delivery to Ambassador Spring-Rice of America's first loan to the allies, \$200,000,000. While the British visitors devoted most of the day to honoring the French mission, they found time to complete details of organization in preparation for the joint conferences soon to begin. Now that the representative of France have joined Mr. Balfour and the military, naval, financial and trade experts here with him.

Mr. Balfour lunched to-day with the Italian ambassador, spent part of the afternoon at the Treasury Department with Secretary McAdoo, and was entertained at dinner at the British embassy, where a reception attended by the diplomatic corps and high American officials followed.

The Foreign Minister received the newspaper men during the day at the residence where he is entertained as the guest of the nation. He appeared hearty and vigorous in spite of his sixty-nine years.

GLAD OF OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS GRATITUDE

When the newspaper correspondents had been presented, Mr. Balfour said: "Gentlemen, I am very much obliged to you for coming here to-day and giving me the opportunity of expressing to you personally, and through you to the great American public, how very deeply we who belong to this mission sent from Britain value the kindness, the enthusiasm, the warmth of welcome which we have received in this capital city of the United States. All our hearts are gratified and touched personally. We are even more deeply touched by it as being the outward and visible manifestation of sympathetic emotion in carrying out and responding to a great call, which is the real security for our success."

"No man who has enjoyed in the last few days of hearing, seeing and talking to leading members of your state can for one moment doubt the

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# JOFFRE AND VIVIANI GUESTS OF NATION

United States Steps into Britain's Role as Banker for Entente Allies

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 25.—The United States to-day stepped into Great Britain's former role of banker for the allies with a \$200,000,000 loan to Great Britain for itself, and the promise of other speedy financial relief to Italy, France and Russia.

The British loan was notable as the first made by the American government since its entrance into the war, and for the celebrity with which it was negotiated, less than twenty-four hours after the \$2,000,000,000 finance measure had become a law. The loans to follow will be placed where the money is needed the most.

Whether Great Britain, Italy, France, Russia or Belgium is to get the next loan had not been decided to-night. All except Belgium have presented their applications for relief.

The next loan will hardly wait for the bond issue, but probably will be made upon the proceeds of another subscription to Treasury certificates of indebtedness, as in the case of the loan made to-day. There yet remains \$50,000,000 of the \$250,000,000 subscribed to the first offering of certificates. Should there arise need for quick financing for Italy or any other entente government, it was said to-night that this sum could be made available without loss of time.

The \$200,000,000 furnished to-day is said authoritatively to be only in the nature of preliminary financing of Great Britain to enable her to meet payments due, or about to fall due, for munitions and other supplies purchased in the United States.

In return for the Treasury warrant for the first loan, the British ambassador delivered to Secretary

McAdoo the British government's note for \$200,000,000, bearing interest at 3 per cent, the same rate as the certificates bear, and the lowest at which Great Britain has borrowed for many a day, due June 30 next, the date the certificates will expire.

Almost before the ink was dry on the warrant, Secretary McAdoo was deep in discussion with Arthur J. Balfour, head of the British commission, and Lord Cunliffe, head of the Bank of England, on a program looking to meeting England's further financial needs during the next few months.

Italy has presented an urgent plea for consideration. Her needs are said to be pressing and immediate, and indications are that a loan will be extended to her promptly. Italian financial requirements are understood to be more urgent than those of either France or Russia.

The entire program, it was said, yet remains in formative stage. British officials have given a definite idea of their needs, approximately \$250,000,000 a month, less the amount they are spending out of this sum on behalf of Russia and France. A visit from one of the French commissioners within the next few days is anticipated at the Treasury Department, and soon thereafter the government will have in hand an equally clear idea as to what the French government will require.

The American government will step beyond the role of major powers to lend a helping hand to Belgium, if Belgium wants the aid. Belgium has indicated informally that she would appreciate financial aid.

## Entente Not Seeking Political Alliances With United States

Balfour Makes Frank Statement as Result of Conferences With Wilson and Lansing.

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## IDOL OF FRANCE AND EX-PREMIER WARMLY RECEIVED

Heartfelt Enthusiasm Is Shown in Capital's Welcome to War Mission.

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE SHOUT THEIR GREETINGS

City Turns Out Enmasse to See These Illustrious Friends of United States.

FORMAL COURTESIES TO-DAY

Then Conferences Will Begin to Determine This Country's Share in Beating Germany.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, April 25.—The French war mission to the United States, headed by Rene Viviani, Minister of Justice and former Premier, and Marshal Joseph Joffre, hero of the Marne and popular idol of the people of France, was welcomed to Washington to-day with heartfelt enthusiasm.

To-night, after being warmly greeted by American officials and hailed as illustrious friends by thousands of people who lined the streets while they crossed the city, the commissioners are at the home of Henry White, former ambassador to France, as the guests of the United States government.

To-morrow the leading members, M. Viviani, Marshal Joffre and Admiral Chocheprat, will be received by President Wilson, and later there will be preliminary conferences between the representatives of the French and American military and naval chiefs. Before night the administration will have in its possession at least a broad outline of France's view of American participation in the war.

The leading members of the mission, coming up from Hampton Roads aboard the presidential yacht Mayflower, had their first view of the national capital from a point on the Potomac River below Alexandria, and after Mount Vernon had been passed, STAY WITH BARE HEADS AS THEY PASS MOUNT VERNON

As the Mayflower came abreast of the home of the first President, the Marine Band played "The Star-Spangled Banner," and the Frenchmen lined the rail with heads bared and stood at attention. At Alexandria, rich in historic memories, the commissioners saluted hundreds of people who lined the river front wharves, waving their hats and cheering, while the whistling whistles shrieked out a noisy welcome.

Soon afterward the navy-yard was reached, and there the party was received by a group of American officials, headed by Secretary Lansing. The secretary led the ceremony by shaking hands first with M. Viviani and Marshal Joffre, and then with the other officers. The greeting was no mere perfunctory diplomatic affair.

Yacht's band played the "Marseillaise" and the marine guard on shore stood at attention, there was real warmth in the handshakes and the earnestness of genuine feeling in the words of welcome.

Once ashore, the party quickly entered motor cars and drove across the city to the residence where its members are to be entertained during their stay here.

Clerks in the government departments had been given permission to leave their desks to join in welcoming the visitors, schools had been dismissed, and residents from all over Washington had flocked to the streets. From one end of the city to the other there was enthusiastic cheering as the Frenchmen were recognized.

TRI-COLOR IN EVIDENCE THROUGHOUT CAPITAL

Everywhere the French tri-color was in evidence. It was flying from the tops of buildings, from windows of offices and residences and from automobiles. Frequently it appeared in company with the Stars and Stripes and the British union jack.

Two troops of United States cavalry acted as escort for the mission through the streets, and other regulars were stationed about the White House. Secret Service men are quartered near-by, stationed about the city home. So that its rays can be directed upon the entrance to the house. Every precaution to insure the safety of the party has been taken.

Mr. Viviani took a long walk through the residential section of the city during the afternoon, quietly enjoying Washington in its spring-time garb. He was greatly gratified at the cordiality of the public reception, and to friends remarked that he was especially delighted to have seen so many school children among the crowds.

Marshal Joffre spent the afternoon motoring through Rock Creek Park at the edge of the city. The Marquis de Chambrun, grandson of General Lafayette, called upon several old friends.

Meanwhile, the five staff officers and technical experts, who left Fort Monroe by train this morning, had arrived and taken up quarters at a hotel. The entire party dined later at the White House.

To-morrow morning Mr. Viviani, Marshal Joffre, Admiral Chocheprat and the Marquis de Chambrun, accompanied